WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer implemented method for operating a web imaging system for use with a browser on an imaging client, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request from external web content for a reference to a resource;

translating the request to an imaging client specific command;

creating an opaque reference that is mapped to the imaging client specific command; and

providing this opaque reference to the web content, without supplying a reference to the resource or the imaging client specific command to the web content.

2. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein an imaging extension performs the receiving, translating and mapping steps, and wherein the imaging extension does not accept a reference from the web content.

3. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the resource is associated with the personal imaging repository of a user.

4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein a reference from the web content will be accepted if the reference or the web content meets a criteria.

5. The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the criteria is that the reference is from the same source as the external web content.

6. The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the criteria is that the external includes predetermined credentials.

7. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the steps of calling an imaging extension API that interacts with the personal imaging repository resources; and

wherein the mapping step comprises mapping to a resource from the user's personal imaging repository.

8. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the API creates a session with a session id that is used to facilitate obtaining the opaque reference.

9. The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the opaque reference is mapped in the mapping step to a reference for a personal imaging repository resource, but this mapping is deleted when the session ends.

10. The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the imaging extension API calls at least one API for one of the personal imaging repository resources.

11. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the opaque reference is originated by the imaging extension and is only recognized by the imaging extension.

12. The method as defined in claim 7, further comprising the step of receiving at the imaging extension a reference from the web content;

accessing an imaging extension API to map the reference received from the web content to an opaque reference and creating a mapping relationship in the imaging extension between the received reference and the opaque reference; and

adding the opaque reference to a graphic.

13. The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the imaging extension API is only accessed if credentials of the web content are accepted by the imaging extension.

14. A program product for operating a web imaging system for use with a browser on an imaging client, comprising machine readable program code for causing a machine to perform the following method steps:

receiving a request from external web content for a reference to a resource;

translating the request to an imaging client specific command;

creating an opaque reference that is mapped to the imaging client specific command; and

providing this opaque reference to the web content, without supplying a reference to the resource or the imaging client specific command to the web content.

15. A system for operating a web imaging system for use with a browser on an imaging client, comprising:

a component for receiving a request from external web content for a reference to a resource;

a translator for translating the request to an imaging client specific command;

a component for creating an opaque reference that is mapped to the imaging client specific command; and

a component for providing this opaque reference to the web content, without supplying a reference to the resource or the imaging client specific command to the web content.